

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 09882 140530Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 OC-06 CCO-00
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /038 W
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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1924
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USICA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE/ECJ-4/7-SAME
USDA/FAS/ASST ADMIN AND MGNT
INTERIOR WASHDC

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DEPARTMENT PASS USAID, PEACE CORPS

DEPARTMENT FOR A/SY/OPS/FO, AF/C, AF/EX, OC

ACCRA FOR RCO

NAIROBI FOR RSS

FROM RSO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, CG
SUBJECT: CRIME LEVEL - JAN -SEPT 1978 STATUS REPORT - KINSHASA

REFS: (A) KINSHASA 10351 (77) (B) KINSHASA 10904 (77)
(C) KINSHASA 2089

1. SUMMARY: LEVEL OF CRIME IN KINSHASA DIRECTED AGAINST AMERICANS
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HAS DECREASED MARKEDLY SINCE SITUATION DESCRIBED REFTELS. THE
MISSION, WITH OUTSTANDING SUPPORT FROM AF/EX, OC, AND SY, HAS
DEVOTED EXTENSIVE EFFORTS TO IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS AND THE
SECURITY OF OUR RESIDENCES. THE DECREASE IN THE LEVEL OF
CRIME, COMBINED WITH IMPROVEMENT OF RESIDENTIAL SECURITY, HAS
HELPED POST MORALE. HOWEVER, JUDGING FROM PAST EXPERIENCE, WE
SHOULD ANTICIPATE ANOTHER CRIME WAVE THIS FALL, THE INTENSITY OF

WHICH WE CANNOT PREDICT. IN THE INTERIM, THE MISSION CONTINUES ITS PROGRAM TO IMPROVE RESIDENTIAL SECURITY. END SUMMARY.

2. A REVIEW OF THE RSO CONSOLIDATED INCIDENT REPORTS FROM JANUARY 1978 TO DATE REVEALS NO MAJOR BURGLARIES OR STREET ROBBERIES OF MISSION MEMBERS. THERE HAVE BEEN FIVE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTED BURGLARIES OF RESIDENCES SINCE JANUARY AND FIVE ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL ROBBERIES IN WHICH ITEMS OF MINOR VALUE WERE TAKEN. ON SIX OCCASIONS MEMBERS OF THE MISSION HAVE BEEN ACCOSTED IN THEIR VEHICLES OR WHILE WALKING IN THE STREET AND ATTEMPTS MADE TO SNATCH PURSES, WATCHES AND NECKLACES. PARKED VEHICLES REMAIN A PRIME TARGET AND SIX HAVE BEEN ROBBED DURING REPORTING PERIOD. THERE HAVE BEEN NO ACTS OF VIOLENCE DIRECTED AGAINST MISSION PERSONNEL DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.

3. SINCE JANUARY OF THIS YEAR THE EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED PORTABLE RADIOS TO 100 PERCENT OF THE MISSION FAMILIES. THIS PROVIDES COMMUNICATION ON A 24- HOUR BASIS FROM APARTMENTS AND HOUSES TO THE MARINE POST AT THE EMBASSY. THE RADIO PROGRAM HAS PROVIDED EACH HOUSEHOLD A MEANS TO NOTIFY THE NEIGHBORS, MOBILE LOCAL GUARD INSPECTORS AND THE RSOs TO RESPOND TO BURGLARY ATTEMPTS. IN ADDITION, THE EMBASSY HAS GRILLED THE WINDOWS OF LOWER-FLOOR APARTMENTS AND MOST OF THE HOUSES. THE EMBASSY HAS A CONTINUING PROGRAM TO INSTALL BURGLAR ALARMS AND SAFE HAVENS IN HOUSES AND APARTMENTS. THOUGH THE PROGRAM IS NOT COMPLETE, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT IN THE COMING YEAR 100 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERCENT OF THE HOMES WILL HAVE BURGLAR ALARMS AND SAFE HAVENS INSTALLED. THE EMBASSY CONTINUES TO FURNISH 24-HOUR LOCAL GUARD SERVICE TO ALL RESIDENCES. BY PROVIDING MONETARY INCENTIVES TO GUARDS WHO DETER BURGLARIES, WE HAVE INDUCED THE GUARDS TO BE MORE ALERT. AS A RESULT OF THE ABOVE, THE MISSION FEELS BETTER PREPARED TO MEET ANY FUTURE CRIME WAVE.
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